

**Appln. No.: Not Yet Assigned**  
**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

**ABSTRACT**

The invention relates to a metal flat gasket, especially cylinder head gasket, for an internal combustion engine. The gasket comprises at least one functional layer having at least one through-opening, and at least one leveling and/or cover layer covering the functional layer at least partially. When the gasket is not yet mounted the functional layer is configured as a planar sheet metal element which is associated, at least in the area of the through-opening, with at least one profiled element. When the gasket is mounted the profiled element deforms the functional layer, thereby producing at least one elastically sealing area.

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